

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

### INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY



(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

REC'D 04 JUL 2006

WIPO

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Applicant's or agent's file reference 7039DI.CHII		<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b>		See Form PCT/PEA/416
International application No. PCT/BE2005/000042		International filing date (day/month/year) 29.03.2005		Priority date (day/month/year) 26.03.2004
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC INV. B41F17/00				
Applicant DE VOLDER, Laurent				
<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of 9 sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (Indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in electronic form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>				
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p>				
Date of submission of the demand  24.10.2005		Date of completion of this report  30.06.2006		
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016		Authorized officer  Curt, D  Telephone No. +31 70 340-4383 		

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT  
ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.  
PCT/BE2005/000042

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**Box No. I Basis of the report**

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1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on

- ☒ the international application in the language in which it was filed
- ☐ a translation of the international application into , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
  - ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b))
  - ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4(a))
  - ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2(a) and/or 55.3(a))

2. With regard to the **elements\*** of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):*

**Description, Pages**

1-10 as originally filed

**Claims, Numbers**

1-24 filed with telefax on 15.06.2006

**Drawings, Sheets**

1/4-4/4 as originally filed

- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages
- ☐ the claims, Nos.
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- ☐ the description, pages
- ☐ the claims, Nos.
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):

\* If item 4 applies, some or all of these sheets may be marked "superseded."

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT  
ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.  
PCT/BE2005/000042

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**Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

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**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-24
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	1-24
	No: Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-24
	No: Claims	

**2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7):**

**see separate sheet**

**Re Item V**

**Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;  
citations and explanations supporting such statement**

Reference is made to the following documents:

D1: WO 92/05960 A (PRINTING INTERNATIONAL NAAMLOZE  
VENNOOTSCHAP) 16 April 1992 (1992-04-16)

D2: US-A-4 803 922 (DENNESEN ET AL) 14 February 1989 (1989-02-14)

D3: US-A-5 119 724 (NG ET AL) 9 June 1992 (1992-06-09)

1. The document D1 is regarded as being the closest prior art to the subject-matter of claim 1 and shows (the references in parentheses applying to this document) a device for linear pad printing products with significant variations between them (see for instance page 1, first and third paragraph) by means of a linear pad comprising -one pad (see figure 9) with a primary guide (implicit, see page 3, fifth paragraph) provided for the main movement of the pad, which provides for a movement function. The subject-matter of claim 1 differs from this known linear pad printing device in that said device comprises:  
-one secondary guide as a buffer element for buffering the differences in effective deposit depth between the individual products to be printed, wherein  
-said secondary guide is arranged axially with respect to said pad and outwardly thereto so as to act thereon.

The problem to be solved may be considered as the provision of a linear pad printing device which enable to compensate for variations in height of the products to be printed.

The present solution to this problem is neither known from the prior art, neither are there any hints so as to come to a product such as disclosed in claim 1.

D1 intends to print on objects of irregular shapes by providing a flexible pad (see in particular figure 9)

D2 and D3 shows pad printing device, one of which (in D2) print on circular shape products.

Therefore the subject-matter of claim 1 is considered inventive (Article 33(3) PCT)

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
REPORT ON PATENTABILITY  
(SEPARATE SHEET)**

International application No.

PCT/BE2005/000042

2. Independant claim 12 describes a known method for linear pad printing using a pad with the features of claim 1.  
Therefore claim 12 is considered inventive (Article 33(3) PCT).
3. Claim 2-11, respectively 13-24 are dependent on claim 1, respectively on claim 12 and as such also meet the requirements of the PCT with respect to novelty and inventive step.

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